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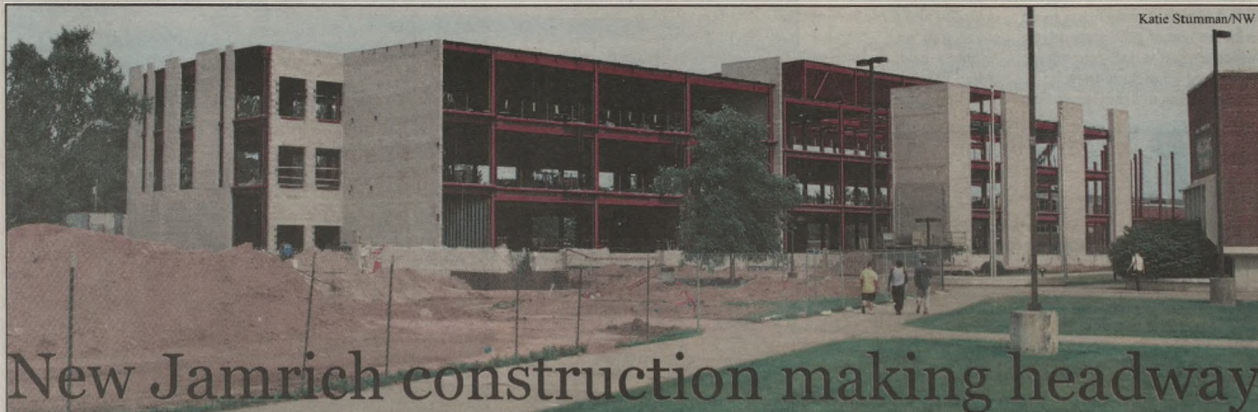
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Katie Stumman/NW

New Jamrich construction making headway

By Cody Boyer
editor in chief

While students are busy attending their first classes of the fall semester, the construction of the new Jamrich Hall on Northern Michigan University continues in between Hedgcock and the Learning Resources Center.

Construction for the new building began on Monday, April 1 during the last winter academic semester, expanding into the Academic Mall and erecting the

frame for walls. Jim Thams, NMU associate director of engineering and planning, said the building is slated for fall 2014.

"Right now, we are on track to hit our schedule," Thams said. "The foundation is there, the floors have been poured in the first third of the building and they are now working on the second third. It has been a busy summer."

The new Jamrich Hall, which is planned to provide 136,000 square feet of classroom, lecture hall and office space, will also

house offices for the sociology and psychology, math and computer science, English, psychology, social work and anthropology departments on campus.

Thams said the operational costs of the new building and the space it will provide will help the university in a variety of ways.

"When we calculated the cost benefit of building a new building versus renovating, the projected savings was around \$180,000," Thams said. "It will meet our needs and won't create a surplus

of office space. There will be enough office space to house the entire staff."

Thams also said the construction has bled into the Academic Mall due to the network of steam lines underneath the campus, which are connected to many buildings on campus.

"The last utility that is flowing in the ground right now and is nearly complete is the steam line, which will provide heat to the building," Thams said. "The steam lines essentially run all

over campus and run to every building. They head over near the tunnel that connects the LRC and West Science and we needed to tap into those lines to get the steam to the new building."

Kathy Richards, NMU associate vice-president of engineering and planning, said the construction of the new facility on campus will bring many good changes to the campus once it is done.

See JAMRICH • Page 4

ASNMU establishes new appointment committee

By Cody Boyer
editor in chief

With student organizations starting again across the campus of Northern Michigan University, ASNMU held their first meeting of the Fall 2013 semester to discuss summer accomplishments and future plans for the student-body government.

On Tuesday, Aug. 27, ASNMU had their first meeting in Pioneer Room A on the second floor of the University Center. The meeting focused on a number of main points, including ASNMU involvement in on and off-campus housing, a bike share program and the creation of a new appointments committee from the current student government members.

ASNMU Vice President Abby Roche said the year is looking to be a promising one for the student-government, as well as

the rest of the students who attend NMU.

"You can expect great things from us," Roche said. "On that note, and I know Amber (Lopota) will say it too, we want people to question us moving forward."

ASNMU President Amber Lopota said she has many plans to act on moving forward into the year, steering the organization away from a discussion group and into an organization of action.

"I feel very excited," Lopota said. "I feel like there is a lot of talent sitting at this table and I feel that the people who have



LOPOTA

See ASNMU • Page 4

Lenovo Twist computers given to eligible students

By Chris Dittrick
assistant news editor

Students and faculty receiving new laptops this semester are getting something different compared to the laptops of the previous years, in the form of the Lenovo Thinkpad Twist Multi-touch Ultrabook that is being provided to eligible students and faculty.

According to Mark Shevy, associate professor of communication and performance studies, the new laptops are not only representative of the direction technology is moving, but exactly the devices students should use.

"Everything is moving toward tablets and mobile touch screens," Shevy said. "These laptops are a kind of hybrid that are meant to ease us into the next step where we no longer need laptops."

According to Shevy, the current major concerns are a bug that can sometimes prevent connection with WiMax or Wi-Fi until a reboot has been completed, as well as the display will flip with the screen in the wrong

direction when being handled. So far, the issues have not prevented the computer from being used.

"They have potential once the bugs are worked out, and they do

See TWISTS • Page 2



Katie Stumman/NW
Sophomore behavioral analysis major Johanna Carlson (left), and Darien Steiner (right), freshman vet medicine major, explore their new Twists.

TWISTS

Continued from Page 1

get interesting bugs," Shevy said. "These will be good computers."

According to Shevy, the new Twist computers are a marked improvement over previous hardware, in particular the inclusion of Windows 8 as the operating system of choice for the laptops.

"They do boot much faster, which is a plus considering the WiMax bug required a reboot to fix each time," Shevy said. "That's been patched now but the speed is still a plus. It has to do with the use of solid state drives, which are just as if all your storage is just one giant flash drive."

According to Shevy, one of the

downsides to the Twist computers is that they do not have as many USB ports as the previous, which had three ports where the new Twist has only two. Another downside is that the Twist computers do not have a VGA port. This makes connecting to video projectors in classrooms require the use of an adaptor for the DVI socket the Twist computers do have, according to Shevy.

"I've heard that the plugs for video projectors in the classrooms will be changed," Shevy said. "So far, some rooms have been upgraded and some have not been attended to yet."

Shevy said students with the older Thinkpads have a DVI socket and should not be affected

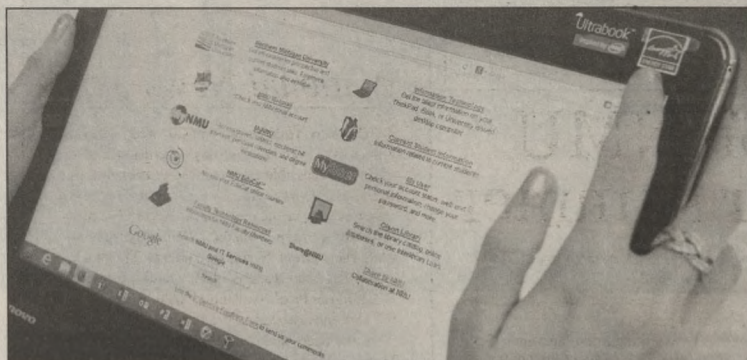
by the upgrade in the classrooms.

Still, according to some students, the Twist' computers are worth the few remaining glitches.

"They act up a lot and tend to overheat once in a while, but its an all around good computer," Katelyn Gladwell, a freshman athletic training major, said. "It works fast. I'm happy with it."

Gladwell also said the new laptops are an excellent tool to help new students complete their class work.

Bug repair information for the Lenovo Twist Ultrabooks can be found on the NMU I.T. Services webpage. For information or help with the new computers, visit the technology services helpdesk in the Learning Resources Center across from Starbucks.



Katie Stumman/NW

The new Lenovo Twists, while experiencing some issues with bugs, have been well received by most NMU students.

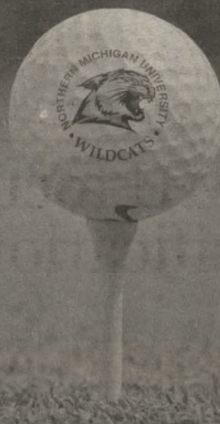


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Site painting at Fall Fest



Kristen Koehler/NW

NMU drawing and painting majors Kate Hertler, left, a senior, and junior Kelly Peters, collaborate on a site painting while at Fall Fest on Monday, Aug. 26. Hertler and Peters are part of the new campus organization, HUEnted Artists.

ASNMU focuses on NMU beautification over summer

By Emily Pagel
assistant news editor

Over the summer ASNMU worked across campus to help better Northern's campus and student body.

ASNMU Vice President Abby Roche, public relations major, said the summer was the basis for several continuing and future projects.

"We told people this summer would be our base, and this summer definitely was our base," Roche said. "We got a lot of things done, we got organized, and I think that because of that we are off to a running start. We have a lot of great programs and we have a lot of representatives that will be able to hit the ground running."

ASNMU President Amber Lopota, public relations major, focused on creating connectivity across campus during the summer months.

"We worked very diligently on rebuilding network and reconnecting with departments on campus that we lost touch with," Lopota said. "We had one-on-one time with President Haynes, board of trustees, we pre-

sented at their meetings when they came to campus and we met with the provost."

Lopota also traveled to Lansing, Michigan to attend The Student Association of Michigan's Presidential Summit.

SAM gives student body presidents the opportunity to network and discuss future plans for their home universities and ways to better their campuses across Michigan.

Another project ASNMU worked on this summer focused on Northern's campus grounds.

"There was a campus beautification project we worked on," Lopota said. "We planted four flower gardens, which are looking awesome; they're beautiful."

Lopota said despite a rough start with some of the individual plots the beautification project came out better than expected.

"We planted [plants] and when they gave us the plots I was a little disheartened because it appeared to be sand with cigarette butts and golf tees in there and I didn't know how

anything was ever going to grow," Lopota said.

The flower gardens are located across campus.

Two of the gardens are on the Seventh Street entrance of the Hedgcock building, while one is located at the bookstore entrance of the University Center, and one at the Third Street NMU sign entrance of the PEIF.

"I am so proud of them and we've been working very hard on them," Lopota said.

The materials for the beautification project were provided by NMU's grounds department and along with the help of Grounds Supervisor Terry Eilders.

Lopota and Roche both said getting student involvement is key this year and to get people on board with whatever peaks their interest.

"We want people to question us, we want people to ask us questions," Roche said.

Students can attend ASNMU meetings at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Charcoal Room of the University Center.

Briefs

State News

The city of Lansing could soon join Grand Rapids, Flint, Jackson and Detroit in passing a marijuana reform law. A ballot initiative has been certified and will be up for vote in November that legalizes the possession of up to one ounce as well as the use or transfer of marijuana by adults who are 21 or older.

Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero spoke out in support of the initiative. According to Bernero, the courts and police officers have more important issues to pursue than adults in possession of marijuana.

"The public is far ahead of most politicians on this issue," said Bernero.

National News

The New York Times website was not available to the web on Tuesday afternoon and remains inaccessible on Wednesday morning due to a massive cyber attack by hackers. The attack is believed to be the work of the Syrian Electronic Army, a group of hackers that is sympathetic with the current Syrian president. The hacker group has been responsible for hacking into the Washington Post's website as well as the twitter feed for the Associated Press.

Some users attempting to use the New York Times website were greeted with the message, "Hacked by SEA."

The SEA also claims to have hacked Twitter's domain as well as the UK site for The Huffington Post.

International News

U.S. Naval vessels are readied in the eastern Mediterranean Sea while officials are informing United Nations inspectors that they should leave Syria. A suspected chemical weapons attack has prompted comments and activity from the White House and the U.S. State Department that seem to be laying the groundwork for a directed military strike.

U.N. inspectors have been searching locations in Syria in search of evidence of the chemical weapons use in the alleged attack.

"It does seem that some kind of substance was used that killed a lot of people," U.N. and Arab League special envoy to Syria Lakhdar Brahimi said on Wednesday.

Weird News

Nissan Motors has made the claim that they will be able to have a driverless car on the market by 2020. They have joined Google in the race to the market for such a vehicle but does not appear to be in cooperation with the search engine giant.

Nissan has plans for a 2014 date for testing their final vehicle designs, although it is apparent that they have been testing such technology in the lab for years prior.

Google has been road testing autonomous vehicles of their own since 2010, but has no plans to offer the vehicles to the consumer market. They may have plans to sell such technology to other automakers.

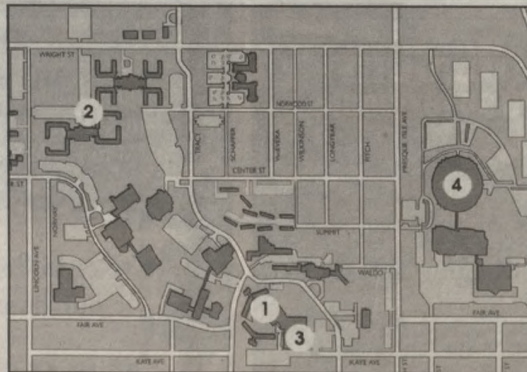
Audi and Toyota also have driverless prototypes in testing.

— Compiled from news sources

CAMPUS CRIME MAP

KEY

1. At 8:44 p.m. Friday, Aug. 23 a student was found in possession of marijuana at West Hall.
2. A student was found in possession of and using marijuana at noon Sunday, Aug. 25 at Halverson Hall.
3. Larceny of personal property was reported at the NMU Bookstore at 3:50 p.m. Monday, Aug. 26.
4. Larceny of personal property was reported from the Superior Dome was reported at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 27.



Bookstore staff addresses shortages

By Chris Dittrick
assistant news editor

Obtaining textbooks has become a more difficult venture than normal with the start of classes, according to some students.

Yet, according to Paul Wright, assistant manager of the NMU Bookstore, the shortages are no more severe than any other year.

"I was looking at the sales history for previous year," Wright said. "And although the shortages are not really for the same books or even departments, there doesn't seem to be any trend toward an increase of the problem."

There are many reasons why some shelves of the bookstore have been empty this week.

According to Wright, books sometimes get lost in shipping and more often than not are simply ordered too late to arrive for the start of the semester.

"About 20 percent of the orders for class textbooks are

placed in August," Wright said. "They should be ordered in April and November. That would give us time to buy back books from students and be able to know far enough in advance to be able to have enough books available."

However, according to Wright, it's not fair to lay the blame solely on the professors.

For example, when classes get canceled or books get assigned to the wrong section of the class, it takes time to sort out the problems.

"The problem could be solved right this minute," Wright said. "We could just order all new books straight from the publisher and have every book needed in quantity, but the cost would be so high, it just wouldn't be fair to students."

"We work hard to keep prices low by offering as many used books as we can obtain. Last year, we had 68 percent of our textbooks available as cost effective used books. This year, we

may have an even higher percentage."

According to Wright, the NMU Bookstore has been running ads that challenge students to compare prices of books from online booksellers with the prices of on-campus bookstores.

"The easiest way for us to make sure a student can get their textbooks as needed is for them to make a special order with us," Wright said. "There's no commitment to purchase the book and it gives us a better idea of how many students are waiting for textbooks."

Though for many students, special ordering may seem like a reason for yet another long line at the bookstore.

"It's frustrating," Ben Schiavo, a freshman sociology major, said. "The lines are long and it's hard to get in to do anything."

According to Cory Johnson, a bookstore sales clerk, students being upset over unavailable textbooks is common.

"Students get the wrong impression of the situation in thinking that the issue is completely on our end," Johnson said. "Books that are ordered late by teachers need time to be delivered to us. It's not fair that we have to take all of the blame, but we take the complaints with a grain of salt."

That being said, Johnson said little has changed in the way the bookstore is stocked every semester.

"There has been no change in the way the books are being stocked, sold or distributed for pre-orders," Johnson said. "The books that are pulled for a pre-order are correct at the time they are put together."

"If there is a change in what is needed for the class, the book can be incorrect and should be exchanged."

Exchanges or special ordering for textbooks can be accomplished at the textbook services desk located in the back of the NMU bookstore.

JAMRICH
Continued from Page 1

"The new Jamrich will effect significant changes on campus upon its completion," she said. "Its completion will begin a whole new era for NMU."

According to Richards, criminal justice, English and sociology will move from Gries Hall into the New Jamrich Hall. Math will be moving from New Science to the New Jamrich, and military science will move to Hedgcock.

"Once Jamrich and Gries Hall are razed, the area will be returned to green space," she said. "The project schedule is very aggressive, but the construction manager, Miron Construction, is doing a great job keeping the project on track."

According to Thames, the construction will continue following the completion of the outer walls, which is to be completed before the first snowfall.

"We are on time and on budget; those are always two very important points," Thams said.

ASNMU
Continued from Page 1

chosen to commit are going to make a big difference. The students don't have any idea about what is going to hit them."

During the meeting, three members of ASNMU who resigned were addressed to the participants of the meeting. The resignees include James Van Eck, Joe Jacisin and Jesse Brisson.

Lopota said the resignations occurred under respectable circumstances and ASNMU will continue moving forward.

"I do not feel negatively about the resignations because of the reasons that they existed,"

Lopota said. "We had a student who was unable to make it to part-time student and another student who is just not returning. None of them had anything to do with conflicts, and that is what is really important."

According to Lopota, the appointment committee is made up of four assembly members and the chair, which will be the vice president. Lopota said as applications come in and are approved by the Dean of Students office for open seats on the assembly, the applicants will move into a interviews with the members of ASNMU.

"Once applicants meet minimum qualifications, then they move into interview phase with

the appointments committee," Lopota said. "They will meet with them and have an informal interview to establish what exactly they can bring to the table and then if the appointments committee feels that they would be an asset, they would bring them before the assembly and make a recommendation that they take a specific seat. Then, the assembly will vote."

The Bike Share program that ASNMU established in 2012 had also been readdressed and reopened for students this semester.

The Bike Share program allows students to check out a bike through the LRC with their student ID free of charge.

"Bike Share is absolutely complete," Lopota said. "They went live at 8 a.m. [Aug. 26] morning and they are already all checked out."

Lopota said ASNMU's newest program will focus on student betterment in the work field.

"We have a brand new program that is going to be up and running probably within a month," Lopota said. "It's called 'Seconds to Success' and it's a career closet."

Students will be able to access the career closet with their student ID. Seconds to Success is another step in helping students prepare for the career field while attending NMU.

"It's a place where students can come once a semester and receive a full career ensemble free of charge to best prepare them for job interviews, job fairs, presentations, anything like that," Lopota said.

Lopota said the program is funded by donations of gently used professional clothing and an administrative endowment.

"We worked with the Alumni Foundation along with the Parents fund and we raised the first years starting costs entirely," Lopota said. "So that none of that is coming out of student funds."

Seconds to Success will be located in 2204 University Center.

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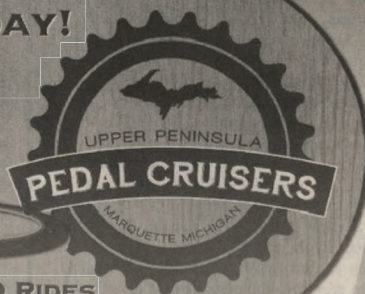
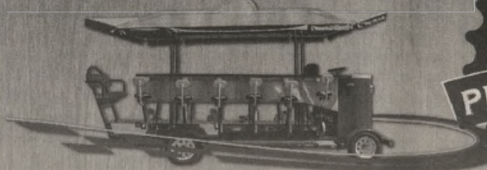
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EDITORIAL

NMU COLLEGE REPUBLICANS



promoting peace and tolerance in politics...

SUCK MY GLOCK!

well, never mind.

Dorsey Sprouls/NW

Groups should promote healthy discourse

College campuses are intended to be places of both intellect and tolerance, and as such, should actively discourage ignorance.

On Monday, Aug. 26, members of the NMU College Republicans both sold and displayed T-shirts at Fall Fest with the words "Suck my Glock" and an image of a handgun emblazoned on the front.

The goal of the shirt seemed simple enough — by way of shock factor, members of the College Republicans' organization expected to garner attention and increase membership sign-ups, goals that Vice President Brandon Zanon said were ultimately successful, as the organization had three times as many people sign up as in previous years.

However, in reference to a subject as complex as that of the Second Amendment, the t-shirts in question seemed to undermine the root of the gun rights issue by diluting it in a sea of other issues — to name a few, misogyny or sexual violence in general, as well as the problems associated with the implication that one should put another's gun in their mouth — relative to the use of the phrase "Suck my Glock."

The emotional reaction triggered by this statement is not beneficial to a conversation regarding the democratic right to own weapons.

Additionally, the methods and ideology that the College Republicans have adopted as a means to "spread awareness about the

Second Amendment," have proven to be the fundamental antithesis of democratic decision making. Essentially, the emphasis of campus organizations should be to encourage open conversation on complex subjects like Second Amendment rights, not suggest that innocent bystanders suck anything, and especially glocks.

The way in which members of the College Republicans chose to attract new interest for their organization was, successful or not, more a display of self-indulgence than a means to establish a genuine space for discussion. The use of the vulgar euphemism "Suck my Glock," despite attempts for attention, has, on the contrary, altered the Second Amendment discussion on campus and has weakened what ground the NMU College Republicans once had as an organization committed to authentic student discourse on the subject of conservative values and ideology.

Herein lies the real difficulty with the "Suck my Glock" T-shirts — their overt misinterpretation of Republican values and the Second Amendment debate. The issue lies not in the expectation of disagreement, which should by all means be encouraged, but in creating conversations for the sake of increasing membership, conversations that diminish the intricacy of the issue at hand and which are not fit for university campuses dedicated to knowledge and tolerance.

THE NORTH WIND

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Technology provides print media much needed boost



Staff
Column

Cody
Boyer

If you have made it to this page to read this column, that is proof alone that newspaper journalism has not kicked the bucket just yet.

Contrary to a great deal of modern-day popular belief, the print version of media remains strong in a world that is quickly filling up with screens, wireless connections and instant gratification.

With changes in social media occurring worldwide, many jobs and trades that have maintained success for hundreds of years are being forced to adapt to new ways of communication in order to stay afloat, the most notable of which is the news industry.

Social networking applications, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and even Vine are finding ways to ingrain themselves into media outlets, particularly in the United States.

Print media is still not only alive, but transforming and adapting to this new facet of journalism — the necessity of social networking.

Small town newspapers have the ability to dodge online features (yet, they should utilize them if they know what is good for them) because local community members and businesses can trust an entity that covers only the small area in which they live and work.

For decades, the printed news medium has been the cornerstone of journalism, produced on a bi-monthly, monthly, weekly or daily basis.

Printed news has a high price tag, depending on maintenance, circulation and other factors. In this way, the Internet has effectively changed the paradigm of reporting the news.

It's made news both accessible and free, but in doing so, has allowed for the creation of more shoddy news sources than reliable ones.

As the new editor in chief of The North Wind, I recently attended an editorial conference called MSCNE13 (Management Seminar for College News Editors) in order to learn more about what I was getting myself into at the North Wind.

The event took place in Atlanta and even brought me to the headquarters of CNN.

While there, I learned that newspapers are still relevant and important, not just something you put in walls as an alternate form of insulation.

As an example, CNN (which is primarily TV-produced) still

contributes wire stories to newspapers like the New York Times.

While I wasn't surprised to hear that newspapers are still striving — it is after all the industry I have chosen to pursue — I was stunned to walk into a four-hour seminar about how Twitter and iPhones are now priceless tools for a reporter and the success of a newsroom.

Some may argue that the dependence on technology we have nowadays might be desensitizing us, as humans, to learning things on our own.

Past journalists used to rely on notepad tablets and film photographer that had to be delivered on a mail wire back to the agency that would then develop and produce their story as news on a spread of newspaper.

I still love to use a physical notepad and don't rely on Twitter for every last thing I do, both journalistically and otherwise.

However, it would be foolish to suggest that a newspaper, in this day and age, could survive for very long without some sort of connection to social media. Twitter handles and quotes can be used journalistically and sites such as LinkedIn have allowed reporters to network with other reporters.

You may use your smartphone to Snapchat friends, record a six-second video on Vine, to give a landscape photo a vintage appearance or to simply text thousands of messages to people all over the world.

However, what some people don't realize is how a piece of technology like a smartphone is now being considered a reporter's best friend, next to coffee of course.

My point is this: when students pick up a copy of The North Wind or any other newspaper, to remember there are things happening behind the scenes that are keeping that paper in physical form, able to be picked up by curious students and faculty members.

I am determined to keep our newspaper up to date with the rest of this world by establishing a greater online presence for the North Wind. With a largely new staff, we are aiming to keep the paper fresh by brushing off the layer of dust from our Twitter handle and posting video casts on our website, amongst other new developments yet to come.

Newspapers have not died or kicked any sort of metaphorical objects that are typically used for holding water.

I urge students and faculty alike to take advantage of what The North Wind is embracing — the promise of greater coverage through an online and multimedia presence, and the strengthening of our campus news through both written and technological means.

On campus living has multiple benefits



Guest Column

Mitchell Sevigny

Classes may have just started, but the chatter amongst upperclassmen about whether or not they'll be in the residence halls next year has only just begun.

The residence halls are now loaded with freshmen, and along with them are sophomores, juniors and even seniors who are eager to get out and have houses and apartments of their own in Marquette. After all, who can blame them?

NMU students can always be spotted wandering the streets of Marquette heading for the homes of friends, friends of friends and complete strangers.

Off campus certainly seems like the place to be. However, the weekends don't convey the effort and financial responsibility needed to have an enjoyable off-campus experience.

I had a brief encounter with what it is like to experience househunting in Marquette. Think of all the qualities you'd want in a house: space, privacy, comfort, convenience and affordability. Pick two of those options and that's the reality of moving off campus in Marquette.

I looked at one house with a few friends, but the house was tiny, aged and expensive. However, it did have sufficient privacy and was conveniently close to campus.

There were a few other options that we wanted to look at, but we bumped into issues with landlords in regards to move-in dates.

In the end, my journey placed me back into the residence halls for another year. My former roommate and several other friends were more successful than I was, but even so, they say if they were given the opportunity, they would move back into the residence halls.

The problem with moving out of the dorms is that, when living off campus, there seems to be significantly less friends and people around.

There are hours and hours of

just sitting alone in a house with nothing to do because roommates also have lives of their own.

There plenty of privacy associated with off-campus living, but it also requires having to venture around town, or even head to the residence halls to experience social interaction.

My former roommate has already been to the residence halls five out of the seven days since they opened their doors before Welcome Weekend.

In this way, the best part of the residence halls is the almost constant convenience of having both options of being alone or with friends. Students don't have that choice in an apartment on Front Street.

Another convenience of the on-campus living is the Marketplace, Den and CatTrax. Everyone will at some point complain about the food on campus, however, one thing that no one has ever complained about is the fact that the MP is almost always available when students are hungry. Also, even when the MP is closed, there is still CatTrax, where one can buy Bagel Bites, or Pringles to hold them over until breakfast.

My former roommate, on the other hand, must rely on whatever happens to be on sale at Walmart.

Turns out, one container of deli meat isn't even a full week's worth of light lunches. A loaf of bread doesn't last a week and store brand cereal is breakfast of choice.

I don't always love the MP, but I appreciate it and will still eat there simply because it's there and I won't die of starvation.

Besides the people and the food, campus living has a plethora of conveniences such as the Learning Resource Center for all your Starbucks, computer and library-related needs. Last I checked, the Help Desk doesn't do house calls, and let's not forget the hassle of trying to find an open parking space in the commuter lots.

I've already seen a few Facebook statuses about how so-and-so was late for class because it took forever to find a parking space. Riding bikes is simple enough if one lives near campus and on-campus students certainly have an advantage once the winter comes.

I was a little disappointed

when I first learned I had to return to the residence halls, but I'm honestly relieved now. Yes they are a little expensive, but living frugally in an apartment is no cakewalk either.

Other than being away from resident advisers, living off campus is simply taking a nose dive into adulthood.

Honestly, taking another year or two to just hangout with fellow residents, cutting through New Science to avoid bitter winter mornings, raiding Cat Trax at 11 p.m. for snacks, buying a grilled cheese at 1 a.m. on weekends, playing a house game of frisbee or sitting down to a board game in the study room is definitely worth the extra cost of the residence halls.

Living off campus certainly gives one a sense of adulthood, privacy and accomplishment, but for me and many who choose to stay on campus, the convenience is undeniable.

While one might find me walking to my former roommate's apartment to escape campus life for the night, but when 8 a.m. classes roll around, I'm glad to be back in the residence halls.

Letter to the Editor Student offended by T-shirts

Dear editor,

Overall, Fall Fest this year was a success. Although the location, due to construction, was forced to relocate from the academic mall to the University Center lawn, over 100 student organizations, 29 non-profit agencies and 65 businesses were represented.

Unfortunately, amidst the festive, back-to-school atmosphere, there was one spark of negativity.

The NMU College Republicans were selling bright orange T-shirts with the slogan "Suck My Glock"

written over a picture of a gun. The back of the shirt displayed the name of the organization and stated their second amendment rights.

I am appalled that the NMU College Republicans would have so little class and dignity that they would proudly promote such a revolting slogan.

The mental imagery of a gun in someone's mouth is violent and horrifying. The message that sexual aggression can be taken lightly is even worse.

Sexual assault is rampant on college campuses just like ours.

According to NMU Public Safety's crime statistics, criminal sexual conduct more than tripled between 2009 and 2011, the last reported year.

The numbers show that sex related crimes are on the rise. Casual references to gun use and sexual aggression are not only sickening, but intimidating.

It is my deepest hope that the NMU College Republicans realize their error and cease sales of these inappropriate shirts immediately.

Carrie Grishaber
senior social work major

Letter Policy

Letters to the Editor must include a full name, year, major and phone number for verification. Limit letters to 250 words or less. All letters may be edited for grammar and length.

Letters should be mailed to The North Wind, 2310 University Center, 1401 Presque Isle Ave., Marquette, MI 49855; submitted via email to editor.northwind@gmail.com, or through a website submission on www.thenorthwindonline.com by noon the Monday before the paper is to be published.

Writers Wanted

The North Wind is hiring opinion writers who can intelligently argue one side of political and social campus issues.

To apply, stop in The North Wind office at 2310 University Center, 1401 Presque Isle Ave., Marquette, MI 49855 or email editor.northwind@gmail.com.

Sound Off *Should students be wary of their behavior in college?*

Compiled by Katie Stumman



Chris Shook

freshman, criminal justice
"Yes, because it affects your potential career. You don't want to get an MIP and then try to get a job with that on your record."



Jaime Mueller

junior, accounting and finance
"Yeah, because if you don't work hard, you can create bad habits that can affect you later in life."



Marissa Montero

sophomore, social work
"This is the real world and everything you do now affects your future."



Mikayla Erickson

sophomore, psychology
"Yes, you're independent and on your own, and what you do now affects everything."



Sean Blake

sophomore, zoology
"No, because being wary is going to hold you back, and you have to take chances in life."

U.P. Pedal Cruiser rolls into Marquette

By Amanda Monthei
managing editor

What began as a popular trend in European countries and, more recently, cities around the United States has finally made its way to Marquette: the pedal cruiser.

Since Tuesday, July 2 and the pedal cruisers official debut during the Marquette Fourth of July Parade, the Upper Peninsula Pedal Cruiser has accumulated 190 miles, according to driver Rigel Pihlainen, who helped get the pedal cruiser up and running with Checker Cab owner Jesse Schramm.

"I wrote a business plan for [the cruiser] as soon as I saw [the European models]," Pihlainen said. "I kind of put [the business plan] in the closet, didn't do anything with it and then last year brought it out and wanted to see how it would work. This year we finally got another person involved with it and rolled it out during the Fourth of July parade."

Pihlainen said the European cousins of the U.P. Pedal Cruiser have specialized keg-holders in the front section of the vehicle, but that the American versions skip out on this feature, possibly because of stricter alcohol laws. In that regard, Pihlainen also said the cruiser can be enjoyed by anyone older than eight — so long as they can reach the pedals — and that

the typical Pedal Cruiser crowd has been a pretty interesting assortment.

"When we first did this, I anticipated the college crowd, people anywhere from 21 to 27," he said. "But now I would say probably more than half of our customers are in their higher 20s to mid 40s."

"Our oldest group was the Bishop Baraga class of '63 high school reunion, and they were actually the best peddlers we've had," he said. "But, we've also had a little league baseball team on here — there are no age restrictions. Basically, all the seats adjust and if you can fit on the seat and your feet touch the pedals then you're fine."

The U.P. Pedal Cruiser, which is provided by Checker Cab Company in Marquette, has been used for a number of special events, though the most notable for Pihlainen were a surprise engagement and a sunrise ride to Presque Isle for a TV6 special on the business and cruiser, as well as a special guest that received a quick ride while visiting Marquette in early August.

"When the governor (Rick Snyder) was here, we supplied it for him, so we had John Kivela on here, too," Pihlainen said. "The community of Marquette has just embraced it. We thought it would go over well. We didn't know how well and now it's just taking Marquette like wildfire."

Checker Cab mechanic

and painter Alex Mowafy, who has been working on the pedal cruiser since before its debut in early spring, said the response to the pedal cruiser has been immensely popular, and that he doesn't see it losing its popularity anytime soon.

"There seems to be a lot of chatter about it," Mowafy said. "When we first got it out, all it took was one person to see and soon all their friends would know. It's quite popular and I don't think the concept is going to go south at all."

Mowafy also emphasized that, while the perception is that the cruiser is used only for nighttime entertainment and transporting passengers to bars, it can be used for a wide variety of events.

"It's not just targeted towards drinking and nighttime," he said. "Usage is pretty versatile — we've even used it for a kid's birthday once."

According to Pihlainen, the U.P. Pedal Cruiser weighs around 1,600 pounds empty, and can fit up to 15 people, but has only 10 seats with pedals. He also said the vehicle is technically considered a bicycle, and as such can operate on bike paths or city streets alike. Pihlainen said it's also necessary that drivers of the vehicle follow the same laws as cars on city streets, and the cruiser is equipped with headlights, turn signals and, of course, brakes and

brake lights.

"We top out at about five miles an hour (on flat ground)," he said. "But going down a hill, this is 1,600 pounds empty. The brakes are car spec brakes, disk brakes up front, drum brakes in back. But a lot of people still ask, 'Does it have brakes?' which they ask me like as we're going downhill."

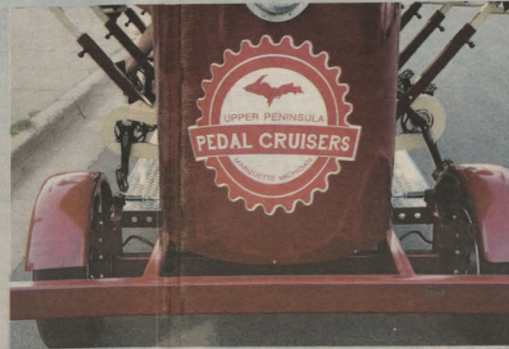
The vehicle also comes with a stereo and an electric motor, just in case.

"There is an electric motor, so the driver isn't stranded if he doesn't have pedalers," Mowafy said.

According to Pihlainen, the warm months have drawn a lot of business — which he expects to increase with the arrival of NMU students — and he is anticipating that the Pedal Cruiser will stay in business until at least December.

With events like sunrise, sunset and special holiday cruises, in addition to the list of reservations that already extend into November, he said he does anticipate cruiser operation through the winter.

"We'll probably start doing a deal every weekend for as far as we can go into the winter," Pihlainen said in regards to a new \$10 all-night bar circuit deal, which only requires that riders get their hand stamped and that there is room on the cruiser at each bar stop. "Grand Rapids has one and they run theirs all winter long, so we're going to see how far we can go."



Kristen Kohler/NW

The U.P. Pedal Cruiser, operating since July, can be rented at any time for parties, or special events



Kristen Kohler/NW

The cruiser is equipped with ten pedal seats, two non-pedal seats and a bench at the back of the bike.



Kristen Kohler/NW



Kristen Kohler/NW



Kristen Kohler/NW

At left, senior elementary education major Jake Hansen (right), and John Konyadyk, a senior nursing major, cruise on the U.P. Pedal Cruiser. There is a suggested minimum of six people for cruiser rentals, however as few as two people can operate it.

IN CASE YOU WERE WONDERING:

BIKE WEIGHT: 1,600 lbs. empty.

AVERAGE BIKE SPEED WHILE PEDALING ON FLAT GROUND: 5 mph

AGE RESTRICTION: Eight and older, as long as riders can touch the pedals.

WHERE IT RIDES: On city bike paths (with discretion) and, while street legal, will not be taken on busy highways or roadsides.

WHO OWNS IT: Checker Cab Company in Marquette

NUMBER OF SEATS: Ten pedal seats and an additional five seats that don't have pedals.

PRICING FOR SUNDAY THROUGH THURSDAY: \$150 per hour with a two-hour booking minimum or \$20 per person for a two-hour ride if the maximum capacity of 15 people is reached.

PRICING FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY: \$200 per hour with a two hour booking minimum or \$27 per person for a two-hour ride if the maximum capacity of 15 people is reached.

AND NOW FOR SOME RULES:

- Drinks are not allowed on the bike, although are permitted on private property with owner approval (bar/restaurant parking lots, personal driveways and yards).

- No glass is allowed on board.

- Sober drivers are always provided.

- Bike is available for rental outside of Marquette for use at private parties and events.

- It can be brought to anywhere in the Upper Peninsula on a trailer, however tours that are 50 miles away require a four-hour minimum rental, and tours that are 100 miles away require eight hours of rental.

- Food and beverages are not provided.

Sex Signals returns to NMU campus

By Trent Podskalan
features editor

Sex. The word alone seems to be a taboo subject, so one may wonder when they hear or see the term "Sex Signals."

Cassie Kobler, one of the two advisers for PrimeTime Productions and resident director of Van Antwerp Hall, said Sex Signals is an improv comedy group that mixes education into their act to convey a message on a powerful subject: sexual assault.

"It's a tough subject to talk about," Kobler said. "Sexual assault isn't the easiest thing to discuss so we liked to keep that kind of fun with the college crowd."

Sex Signals' most recent visit to NMU was last fall and Kobler said their return is partly due to feedback from the students.

"We did some surveys this past year to see what students really wanted us to bring," Kobler said. "We were responding to that."

Kobler said she has heard positive feedback from years past, not only through the surveys, but through word-of-mouth as well.

"I've heard it was funny," Kobler said. "I do hear that you get to a certain point and there is a lot of education, but they do end it on a funny note. It's almost like a quick roller coaster of what is going on."

Alex Nye, president of PrimeTime Productions and senior English writing major, said there already seems to be a lot of talk in the residence halls about Sex Signals' return.

"Some of the [resident advisers] I've talked to and even some of their Welcome Crews think it's really awesome that Sex Signals is coming and everyone's getting really pumped," Nye said. "I've already felt a buzz from it and I think it's gonna be awesome."

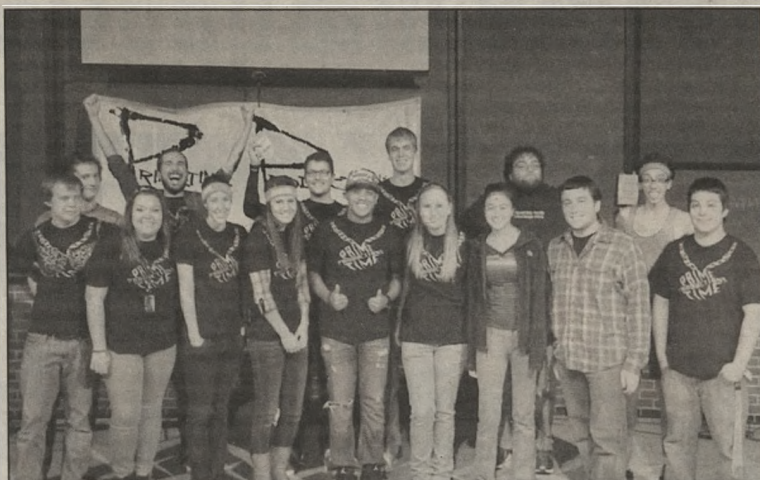
Nye said Sex Signals has some serious undertone to it but it does provide its laughs and is engaging to college students.

"There is a guy and a girl... in their 20s so they're relatable to students our age," Nye said. "These people act out situations and there is some audience interaction where people get stop cards and people can say stop whenever the guy or girl, for that matter, is going too far so it's very heavily audience interactive."

Kobler said the actors do a good job at adding in humor to a heavy-hearted topic.

"I find it very funny when the audience participates with it in giving out cheesy pick-up lines or things like that," Kobler said. "The actors do such a great job at bringing it back."

This is the third time in the past five years Sex Signals has come to campus but Nye said



Courtesy of Josh Santiago
PrimeTime Productions, a student organization that aims to bring entertainment to campus, has revamped their logo and their slogan this year. PrimeTime Productions meets at 9 p.m. every Monday in the Hunt/VA basement.

students shouldn't immediately rule out attending the event if they have seen their performance in the past.

"This will be my third time seeing it, and I'm even excited to see it again," Nye said. "Be prepared to go in with an open mindset. It's not going to preaching at you, it's just going to lay out some of the things that do happen."

Nye said the message Sex Sig-

nals is trying to send is realistic and raising awareness of sexual assault.

"They're not like 'Everyone is going to be sexually assaulted on campus,' kind of like a preachy thing," Nye said. "They're more like 'If this does happen, at least you now have this experience of this show and would know how to maybe handle yourself if you were in this particular situation.'"

Kobler said she hopes students

can come away from the event feeling a little more comfortable and knowing the resources available to them on campus.

"There's no mystery as to why we're bringing this the first week of school," Kobler said. "Getting into this information sooner rather than later is going to be helpful."

Sex Signals will perform at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 30 in Jamrich 102.

ΩΜΕCΩΜΦΠG

2013
SEPTEMBER
15-21

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SEPTEMBER 10

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NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

20 ΩΜΕCΩΜΦΠG 13

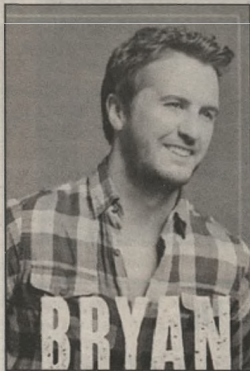
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FOR EVENT INFORMATION, RULES & ENTRY FORMS VISIT:

NMU.EDU/HOMECOMING

Luke Bryan's new album tops charts



Album: "Crash My Party"
 Artist: Luke Bryan
 Label: Capitol Nashville
 Tracks: 13
 Release: August 13, 2013



By Trent Podskalan
 features editor

Country singer Luke Bryan has made a name for himself after joining the music world nine years ago and continues to climb the charts.

The 37-year-old has been on a roll as of late, headlining his first tour, titled "Dirt Road Diaries," and earning himself the title of "Entertainer of the Year" during the 2013 Academy of Country Music Awards, the same place he debuted his new album's first single, "Crash My Party."

Between 2007 and 2011, Bry-

an released "I'll Stay Me" (2007), "Doin' My Thing" (2009), "Tailgates & Tanlines" (2011) and for the past four years has released a special Spring Break EP.

Now, Bryan's new album, coincidentally named "Crash My Party," is topping the charts and had two singles on the airwaves before the album was even released.

"That's My Kind of Night," the album's second single and first track, was released Monday, Aug. 5, just over one week before the album's release date.

"That's My Kind of Night," is a different style of country that most people would not expect to hear on a country album. The track has more of a rock-drive

to it as opposed to an acoustic or amplified guitar that one would normally hear in a country song. The song, even though it lacks the stereotypical country music composition, keeps the country tie with lyrics about riding in Bryan's jacked-up truck and catching catfish dinners.

The following track, "Beer in the Headlights," goes along the same theme of the album's opening track: party. While these songs are a little more upbeat and good Friday night anthems, Bryan includes songs that everyone can relate to.

Be it young or old, everyone has experienced romance and first loves so songs like "Beer in the Headlights," "Roller Coaster," "Play It Again" and "Crash My Party" are tracks that a number of people can connect with.

The Georgia native does let his inner country boy show through the album's final track, "Dirt Road Diaries," a song Bryan plays during a slowed down portion of his performance while on tour. The lyrics speak of Bryan cruising down country roads and reflecting on his life growing up.

"Dirt Road Diaries" chorus lays everything about Bryan's life out for fans to hear with lyrics such as "It's right there for you to see, every kiss, every beer, every cotton field memory."

The common theme for a

number of Bryan's songs on the album all seem to come back to one thing: nostalgia. "Dirt Road Diaries" is the epitome of nostalgia as the closing track.

But nostalgia seems to be the underlying theme through a number of tracks, including the country love songs mentioned earlier.

"We Run This Town" and "Drink A Beer" follow along that same line of nostalgia. Bryan co-wrote "Drink A Beer" with Chris Stapleton about his friend who passed away, reflecting on the times he and his friend shared together.

Bryan reflects on his teenage years with "We Run This Town," which starts out with, "17, we own those streets." Bryan incorporates the use of the word "We'd," saying "we'd drive to fast, we'd get too loud," which also displays his reflection on the past.

"We Run This Town" and "Blood Brothers" both seem to be tracks for the good ol' country boy. "Blood Brothers," as a lyric Bryan uses in the song, is an "all-for-one, one-for-all" type anthem.

There is a deluxe edition that includes four additional songs: "What Is It With You," "Sunburnt Lips," "Better Than My Heart" and "Your Mama Should've Named You Whiskey."

While fans are still a buzz about the new album posting re-

marks on Twitter and Facebook, some feel it is not Bryan's best album.

Reviews on iTunes reveal that some think the album before this, "Tailgates & Tanlines," was a better album. "Tailgates & Tanlines" was one of Bryan's more successful albums in terms of singles, releasing "Country Girl (Shake it for Me)," "Drunk On You," "Kiss Tomorrow Goodbye" and "I Don't Want This Night To End."

With "Tailgates & Tanlines" no doubt being one of Bryan's more successful releases, it has fans wondering how many singles Bryan will release from "Crash My Party."

Fans can only speculate at this point which tracks Bryan will release as singles but there are a number of tracks that have the potential to do well on their own; the question is, which?

Regardless of any criticisms the album may have, Bryan shows no signs of slowing down anytime soon after selling about 528,000 copies in its first week on shelves, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

So regardless of what one may think, there is no denying Bryan is at the top of his game right now and no matter what type of country song you're looking for, "Crash My Party" has songs about it all: whiskey, beer, dirt roads, trucks and country girls.

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Northern Michigan University

Intramural Sports

Fall 2013



Sports Schedule

Sport	Division	Mgr. Meeting
Flag Football	Men's Class A: -Monday, Wednesday Men's Class B: -Tuesday, Thursday Co-Rec: -Sunday	Sept. 11 8 p.m.
Dodgeball	Co-Rec Class A: -Monday Co-Rec Class B: -Tuesday, Thursday Men's: -Sunday	Sept. 11 9 p.m.
Ultimate Frisbee	Open Class A & B: -Nights vary due to turf availability	Sept. 18 8 p.m.
Volleyball	Co-Rec Class A & B, & Women's: -All leagues play on Wednesday unless otherwise noted.	Sept. 18 9 p.m.
Battleship Tournament (4 people in each canoe)	Co-Rec: -One day event to be held on Sunday, Oct. 6.	Sept. 25 8 p.m.

How to Sign Up

Teams may complete the entry form online, or in person at the Rec Sports Office, PEIF 126. Each teammate must have an NMU Rec Pass to participate.

Team Managers

Manager meetings will be held in room B101, in the Superior Dome. Make sure to submit your team prior to this, or bring form with you. Walkups will be added as space allows.

Divisions

Men's: This division consists of only male participants

Women's: This division consists of only female participants

Co-Rec: This division has at least 50% female participants

Open: This division does not have restrictions on participants

Class A is for competitive players and Class B is for recreational players.

Intramural Players

See specific sport rules for the appropriate number of players needed for each team. Please note that there will be an emphasis placed on team sportsmanship this fall.



Student Rec Passes

Stop by the PEIF during open recreation hours and purchase your rec pass. You may also do so online by logging on to your mynmu account.

Three Semesters	\$ 195
Two Semesters	\$ 130
One Semester	\$ 70

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Changes to staff set 'Cats up for success

New coaching staff and players are ready to take on the challenge

By Katie Bultman
sports editor

The Wildcats made a few major changes to the men's basketball program when they brought in a new coaching staff for the upcoming 2013-14 season.

With the announcement in March that Northern Michigan University would not be renewing the contract of former head basketball coach, Doug Lewis, the school was dealt the task of finding a head coach that could bring something new to the table for the Wildcats.

After coming off of a 5-21 overall record in the 2012-13 season, athletic director Forrest Karr led the hiring process that recruited former Ferris State University head coach, Bill Sall.

Sall, who picks up the coaching position after 11 seasons with Ferris State, said the opportunity to coach for NMU has been one that made the move easy for his family.

"It has been a really good transition," Sall said. "We made the move about mid-July and it has been about as seamless as you could have."

Newly appointed assistant coaches Bill Hill and Charles Belt also said the transition has been a smooth one, especially with the newest athletes to join the team.

"The first thing that stands out is our guys do a lot together

given how many new guys we've brought on," Belt said. "That's rare chemistry and it's something we can't pretend."

Belt, who played college basketball for Ripon College in Ripon, Wis., most recently coached at Beloit College in Wisconsin as an assistant for five years, and is new to the Marquette area.

Hill is not so new to the program. Hill has early experience with NMU as a former player who holds several records for the men's basketball team.

After spending the past season as an assistant with the women's basketball team, Hill now returns to the court on the men's side, where he had coached with Dean Ellis, ending in 2010.

Ellis was the last coach to record a winning record for men's basketball.

Hill said the new coaching staff has high goals for the team on both the court and in the classroom.

"My core principles are the same as Coach Sall's, who is definitely a hard worker and whose teams have won by outworking opponents," Hill said. "A winning record is a possibility and that is something we need to have, but we also need to be representatives of NMU. We need to be students and we are student athletes. The number one goal is a degree."

The men's basketball team returns only three members from

last year's squad, of which the players include junior guard Spencer Huss, senior forward Michael Smith and sophomore guard Terry Nash.

The coaching staff has brought on 12 new members for the 2013 season, all of different age levels.

They said it is going to be tougher this year to note which goals are going to be at the top of their list with the inexperience the team has of both the school and the conference.

"Conference championship is always a goal," Hill said. "But you have to be realistic. We have 12 new guys that we haven't started working with yet."

The NCAA places a rule as to when coaches can practice with their players before the season starts.

Due to these regulations, the coaching staff will not have the chance to see their team come together until the week following Labor Day.

Sall has been given the summer months, however, to recruit in preparation for the upcoming season.

"It went extremely well recruiting, taking over as late as I did," Sall said. "We found a group of players that are also extremely good students and we mixed up the classes."

Sall is referring to the classroom status of athletes, which also included sophomores and



NW File Photo

The men's basketball team used the first week of school as open-gym time, as NCAA rules do not permit the presence of coaches this early in season.

juniors, in order to rebuild a team that would not consist solely of an underclassmen roster.

Belt noted that with the team coming off several losing seasons, the coaching staff has a need to focus on the brand of basketball that NMU is going to offer.

"I am a believer there is a difference between losing and being a loser," Belt said. "It is very rare a team goes undefeated, and there is a difference between losing and getting off the bus already mentally defeated. It is making sure we mentally believe we have an

opportunity to win every game."

The first game of the season opens on the road with a late time of 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12 against the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay (UWGB) at the Resch Center in Green Bay.

UWGB is a Division I school that will give the 'Cats a competitive opening game, but Hill said the team has a lot of opportunity to improve.

"We have a lot of good talent coming in and the sky's the limit," Hill said. "Every day there is only one way to go."

Defensive coordinator brings experience

By Georgette Breen-Naylor
staff writer

Although the 'Cats have a new defensive coordinator this year the objective remains the same, don't let the other team score.

New NMU football defensive coordinator, Coach Joe Ballard, will take over after coach Brian Newberry left to take a job as defensive coordinator with Kenesaw State.

Ballard, who won two National Championships while playing safety at Grand Valley State, said he is excited to be coaching on the defensive side of the ball.

"Working with the guys is awesome," Ballard said. "I have a great staff with me."

This will be Ballard's ninth year as a football coach.

Ballard said the main items he wants his players to focus on are to make plays and make sure they are running to the ball no matter where it is on the field.

Although his focus is set on the defensive backs, Ballard is in charge of the overall concept of the defensive schemes.

He said one of the most challenging aspects of working as

defensive coordinator is trying to keep everyone on the same page.

"I want to make sure they understand what is going on," Ballard said. "And that the players buy into the system."

Ballard won't be changing much from last season's concept, which helps a young defense.

Senior defensive back Brandon Parson has been caught in the rollercoaster ride of coaching changes.

Parson was third on the team in tackles and tied for first in interceptions, with three.

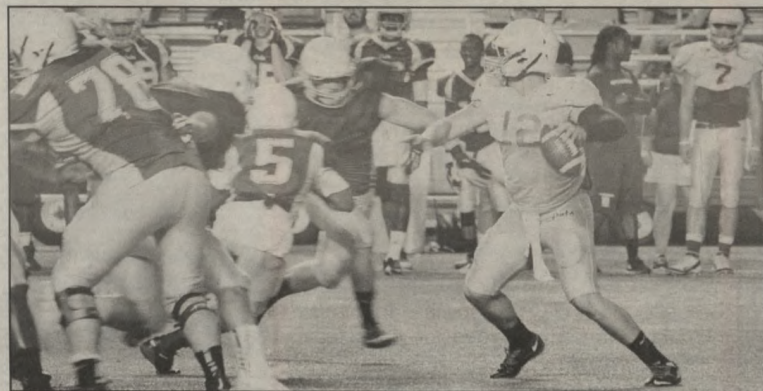
Parson said the way Ballard has organized the plays makes it easier for the players to understand.

"He switched up the names to call and packaged them into categories that are related," Parson said. "It helps us better understand the defense in a quicker fashion on the field."

Ballard said he is excited to see his players succeed and wants them to be successful at running.

"I want to see them run, pursue the ball, and tackle," Ballard said. "I would like to see them score touchdowns for themselves."

Since Ballard played college



Anthony Viola/NW

The Northern Michigan University football team has been practicing daily in the Superior Dome, implementing team scrimmages and donning different color jerseys to keep track of which members are playing on each team.

football, it can serve as a learning tool for the players.

"It's easier to take advice from someone who has been there and done the things we want to do, like winning a National Championship," Parson said. "He knows what it takes to win."

The 'Cats ended last season ranking 12th of 16 in total defense.

They also finished last in the

GLIAC in sacks, with only eight.

The 'Cats defense allowed opponents to convert on nearly 50 percent of third down conversions and more than 50 percent on fourth down.

Ballard will continue to run a defense which includes four defensive linemen on the ball and three linebackers.

He will also work to accommodate this scheme to confuse op-

posing offenses in hopes of creating turnovers.

"I would like to see a lot of turnovers," Ballard said. "That will help us win football games."

Ballard and his defense will make their debut in a couple of weeks.

The 'Cats open the season to take on University of Findlay at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 14 at the Superior Dome.

'Cats gear up after team visits Europe

By Katie Bultman
sports editor

The women's soccer team returned home from Europe last week after spending eight days overseas.

Head coach Matt Granstrand said the 'Cats worked hard the past year and a half in order to fundraise enough money to get the team over to Europe for some pre-season tournament play.

"We fundraised all of the money ourselves and the school did not pay for it," Granstrand said. "It went great and it was really a once in a lifetime opportunity."

The team spent time in the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany over the course of the trip, in which the main purpose was to compete in a soccer tournament that would prepare the women for the upcoming 2013 soccer season.

The team said the trip was a great opportunity for advancement in competition, as well as a chance for the team to bond as a whole and get to know the newest recruited members.

Senior defender Kaylagh Hollen said the team had a very enjoyable time overseas and really improved after being introduced to a game with a very intense speed.

"As far as soccer goes, they're much better over there," Hollen

said. "The play of the game is much faster and the players are very fit."

The coaching staff also said the team was introduced to a competitive edge that the Wildcats were not used to when participating in the tournament.

Assistant coach and former player Brittany Buckingham said the trip overseas gave the 'Cats more experience to bring home to the field.

"[Going overseas] is a lot of fun, and the competition is way higher than what we have experienced in the States," Buckingham said. "It's good for the girls. We were the only team from the States and it definitely helped them to improve."

Granstrand said the team had more losses than wins in the tournament, but the opportunity was the reward in the end.

The 'Cats played six different teams while overseas, giving Northern Michigan University several chances to see different playing styles.

Coaches and players alike said many of the teams overseas offered competition that they are not familiar with at home in the GLIAC.

Coaches and players also said the opportunity provided team bonding time that helped the women form a closer group, and allowed new members to become



Anthony Viola/NW

The women's soccer team entered a tournament in Europe, where they spent eight of the final days of summer preparing for the fall 2013 season.

acquainted with the squad. The 'Cats introduce a young squad for the 2013 season, returning only three seniors in a group that dealt with injuries for much of the 2012 season.

Junior defender Heather Amr said the team trip to Europe helped the Wildcats bring back valuable competitiveness in order to improve in the upcoming games, in addition to the competitive edge that the newest members will bring.

"We're going to look more fit and more confident," Amr said. "The freshmen came in, in shape, competitive and wanting to play

at a competitive level."

Granstrand, whose assistant coach also happens to be his wife, Jennifer Granstrand, said the team is looking good and starting the year off right.

"I like where we are," Matt Granstrand said. "I think we are all expecting to have a better year. Working on things is game by game and starting off with five games in 10 days, everybody has to be ready. We are looking forward to getting started."

Team members said they have become accustomed to having a husband-wife duo for a coaching staff. A couple players also noted

how the coaches bring differing opinions to the field, which gives the team a broader scale of tactics.

"We definitely have differing viewpoints on some things," Jennifer Granstrand said. "However, he's the head coach. It's good and it's bad because I do know him so well."

Jennifer Granstrand, who played at the competitive soccer level as well, came off of a Division I soccer career at Vanderbilt. Matt Granstrand said her experience on the soccer field is a great tool to have in an assistant coach.

"I didn't hire her because she's my wife," Matt Granstrand said. "She knows the game very well and from the female perspective she is probably the most qualified individual within the area. She's not afraid to give me her opinion, which is great."

The team kicks off the season with an exhibition game at noon on Sunday, Sept. 1 at the NMU soccer fields.

"It should be a lot of fun this year," Jennifer Granstrand said. "Last year was kind of rough on everybody in more ways than one, but (with the experience from the trip to Europe) our speed of play has gotten better, moving the ball, reacting to the ball and reacting to play has gotten better. It will come in handy when we play some of the faster teams."

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Shout Outs

Audrey — I love you. I know we might not be able to tell anyone, but I just wanted you to know that. In a way, it's out there now. — **Your Man**

Mike — Get on your bike. We're heading to Milwaukee for the 110th Anniversary of Harley. — **Don**

Zac "Squid" Dominique — Love you and miss you and I hope you enjoy this new chapter in your life! Be your best and do your best and you will succeed!! — **Mom**

Emily — I'm so proud of what you have accomplished! I love you now and forever and I can't wait to be your husband! — **Ben**

ASDFK — I don't know if you know, but if you don't know then you don't... — **Jenny**

Brandon — Suck my glock! — **Women**

Stacy — If I should ever leave you, at least leave me the stove. — **Lee**

Jenna — So excited to have you as my new roommate!! Happy birthday la la. — **K10**

Amber and Abby — You are blowing our minds actually doing what you said you would do...I am so glad I voted for you two! I have big hopes for this year! — **Happy I Voted**

USOEC Residents — There is so much talent on the floor this year, I know you will do BIG things! I am rooting for you all to find your success and challenge yourselves! **STAY FOCUSED, YOU'VE GOT THIS!** — **RLC 319**

Special K — I will expedite a speedy recovery! No Fear! Thanks for the sweet boot! — **Your Foot**

Freshmen girls — You DO realize the French Team is made up of 16- and 17- year old boys, correct? Those are not dashing

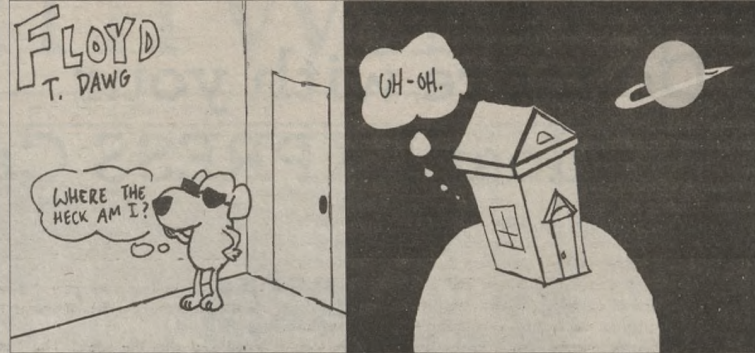
men from afar. Those are high school kids. — **Facepalmer**

Copious granny squares — Save me please. — **Emily**

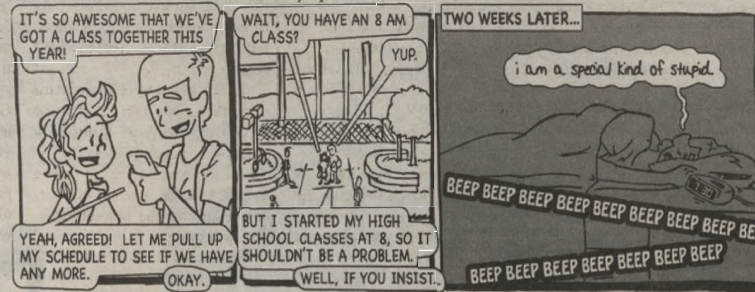
Cody — You rock, and so do your eyebrows. — **Your staff**

Inspirations
PORK SANDWICHES
Beyonce, circa 1997
#DrunktextsfromLee
Glock Party
Happy Halloween!
Cody's (Australian) eyebrows
Burns acts like Ron Swanson
Miley Gone Wild

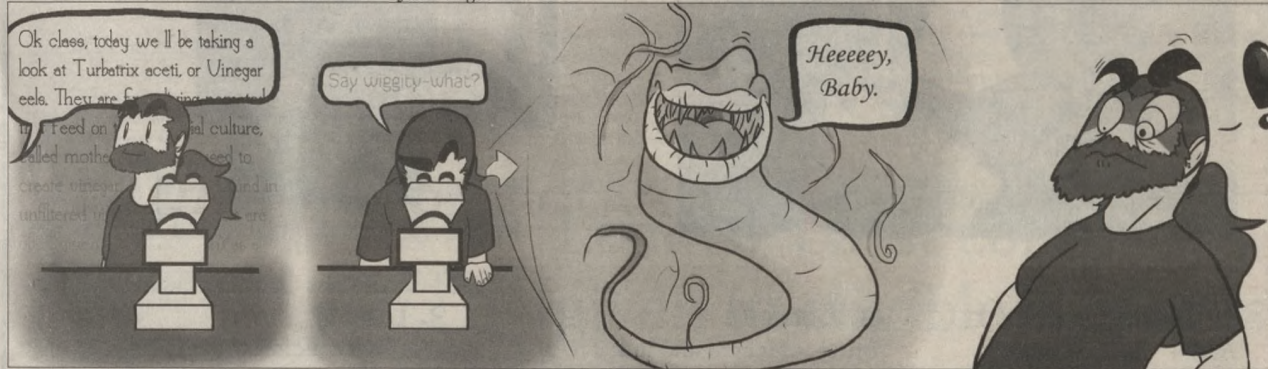
FLOYD THE DOG — Devin Beattie



THE DANGERFIELDS — Dorsey Sprouls



AND I NEVER USED VINEGAR AGAIN — James Highfield



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